



“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for August 2016

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

Publishers: Wing Commander Colonel David Small Jr. / Wing Vice Commander Lieutenant Colonel Buck DeWeese
 Editor: Major Bruce Kipp • Wing Public Affairs Officer • (605) 261-4507 • bruce.kipp@sdcap.us

Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SDWingCAP and Like us on Twitter at [@SDWingCAP](https://twitter.com/SDWingCAP)

WING TIPS

- **SPEARFISH SAREX**: On 20 August a Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX) was held at the Black Hills Airport in Spearfish. Some 50 personnel from all six squadrons of the Wing participated in a combined air and ground search for a simulated downed plane and a search for a simulated missing person. The main focus was on training for mission base staff, aircrews and ground search teams. The two scenarios mirrored the real-life emergency situations South Dakota Wing carries out in support of the state’s emergency management and law enforcement officials. We train often so that we will be ready always.



LEFT: SAREX INCIDENT COMMAND POST OPERATIONS

CENTER: CADETS WILLISON AND KLOSTERMAN KEEP RADIO CONTACT BETWEEN AIRCRAFT, GROUND TEAMS AND MISSION BASE

RIGHT: A GROUND SEARCH TEAM RECEIVES A MISSION BRIEFING

- **LOW-LEVEL ROUTE SURVEYS**: [By Maj. Goodrich] Aircrews from the CAP Wings of South Dakota, Montana and North Dakota all teamed up together to fly a low-level survey of the low altitude portions of the Powder River Military Operations Area and the low-level military training route IR-499. We covered about 14,500 square miles in Powder River alone, and reported on locations of potential noise sensitive areas, potential hazardous areas, and un-charted towers. We supplied photos to the USAF of all the sightings. CAP

aircrews volunteered about 350 hours of their time to accomplish this mission. Thanks to all who gave of their time to make the airspace safer for B-1's and other users of the airspace.

- **NCSA E-TECH (ROBOTICS):** [C/CMSgt Josiah Huntington] In 2015, I went to the CAP's newest National Cadet Special Activity - "Engineering-Technology Academy in Robotics" (NCSA E-Tech Robotics) at



U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton in California. It was a new activity designed to teach the basics of robotics; construction and programming. We worked with the LEGO EV3 "Mindstorm" platform to learn about robotics through hands-on activities. 22-31 July 2016 was the second year for NCSA E-Tech Robotics. They were testing out an Advanced Track and I returned to California as a part of this group. In the Advanced Track we worked more on complex programming; build a simple robot and have it complete a difficult task such things as collecting rocks, launching a rocket, and raising a communications antenna. I had a great time, learned a lot, was able to reconnect with friends from

last year and make a few more. If you are thinking about going to an NCSA, I urge you to do so. There are so many opportunities to learn and meet new friends that this is not something you want to skip (even if you don't choose E-Tech Robotics).



- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS:** SDWG flew 12 aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife over 8 days in August in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks and South Dakota State University. GF&P surveys deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveys elk, bobcats and big horn sheep. The result was 32.1 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills and 6.4 hours flying over eastern South Dakota for a total of 38.5 flight hours. The CAP pilots were Lt. Col. Gary Hewitt, seven sorties, and Lt. Col.

Buck DeWeese, one sortie, Maj. Craig Goodrich, two sorties, and Capt. Neil Schmid, two sorties. Depending whom the sortie supported they were accompanied by a representative from SDSU or Game, Fish & Parks.

STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. David Small Jr., CAP

- I am pleased to announce that Capt. Michael Johnson has been selected as Commander for the 2017 Joint Dakota Encampment. Capt. Johnson has participated in many encampments and has demonstrated strong leadership in cadet programs. His energy, knowledge and enthusiasm will ensure success of this encampment. Currently he serves as Commander of Rushmore Composite Squadron. Encampment is tentatively scheduled at Camp Rapid from 7-16 July 2017.

- On 10 Aug. 2016, Mr. Don Rowland, CAP National Headquarters' Chief Operating Officer, announced his retirement after 31 years of service in CAP, 11 in the corporation's top position. CAP's Board of Governors has selected Mr. John Salvador to serve as interim COO. The application process for the position of NHQ's COO is under development and will be announced soon.

- In celebration of CAP's 75th anniversary, the Air Force Association has extended to all uniformed members of Civil Air Patrol complimentary admission to AFA's 2016 Air, Space & Cyber Conference. The event will be held September 19-21 at the Gaylord National Harbor in National Harbor, Maryland. In a letter extending the free admission, Denise Hollywood, AFA's Executive Vice President, wrote, "We think allowing CAP members to attend at no cost during your special year of commemoration will allow them to participate in rich discussions on the Total Force, and to have a meaningful Air Force-centric professional development experience." CAP members planning to attend the AFA conference should use access code CAP75 at the registration link to register at no cost: <https://airspacecyber2016.expotracker.net/register/index.aspx>.

- CAP-USAF Inventory Audit: My compliments to Maj. Collister, Capt. Bierwirth and Lt. Johnson for having your inventory items accessible and complete. CAP-USAF representative Ray Chavez completed inspecting all three squadrons by 1430, including a drive-by of Mt. Rushmore. No discrepancies were found in any inventory item and he was very impressed with all three squadron's facilities and the care of our inventory.

- During a SAREX an incident occurred where a very small part on one of our vans broke. This broken part allowed van doors to be slammed into each other to the extent that quite a bit of damage was done to the sheet-metal on the doors. No one caused this problem but we could have all been more observant and careful in preventing further damage from occurring. USAF entrusts our Wing with millions of dollar of equipment. We have been good custodians of that equipment. Very seldom is something lost or damaged through negligence or lack of care. I very much appreciate how much you care for our equipment, from aircraft down to the little ICOMs. Please always remember to be careful of any CAP equipment that you handle, ride in or use. Treat it as you would your favorite iPad or car. CAP equipment - treat it right and it will treat you right.



WING CHIEF OF STAFF

Maj. Nick Gengler, CAP

- **ABU UPDATE:** The ABUs we received from the Air Force were mostly adult sizes so our cadet distribution is somewhat on hold. Some ABUs were distributed during the SAREX in Spearfish, but that is the last of the smaller sizes. We are not alone in this problem as it has been reported that most Wings are in the same dilemma. This issue has been passed to National and we await their response in the matter. We will work on getting the rest of the larger sizes out to the Officers in the Wing. We will be working through the Squadron Commanders for sizes and distribution.

- **ACC FAMILY DAY:** Air Combat Command (ACC) has designated Friday, 2 September as an "ACC Family Day." Since CAP-USAF now falls under ACC, CAP will also observe this day as a holiday.



WING DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Col. Mary Donley, CAP

- **SLS & CLC COURSES:** A Squadron Leadership School (SLS) and a Corporate Learning Course (CLC) will be held at Rushmore Composite Squadron headquarters on Saturday, 17 September from 0800-1800. Both courses are necessary for promotions and awards! All officers and cadet officers should consider attending to

continue your professional development. Please contact me: mary.donley@sdcap.us so I can plan for your attendance.

- **NEW LICENSE PLATES**: Since 2016 is the year we have to replace our old license plates with brand new ones - consider replacing them with Organizational Plates so you can have the CAP Seal on them. This is a subtle but easy recruiting tool. It also makes it easy to find your car in a crowded lot. When you go to get your new plates ask for the Organizational Plates - no extra charge! Then contact Rachel at the wing office and send \$10 donation to get your CAP seals to adhere to your plates! It's that simple!!! A great way to show your pride in this great organization!



2017 SDWG ENCAMPMENT COMMANDER

Capt. Michael Johnson, CAP

I'm pleased to announce that Capt. Ashley Ehret has been selected to be the 2017 Joint Dakota Encampment Commandant of Cadets. Capt. Ehret did an outstanding job in this position in 2016 and I know she can make 2017 even better!

Encampment Cadet Executive Staff (Cadet Commander, Deputy Cadet Commander, and Cadet Executive Officer) are now open and will close on September 30th. All other Cadet Staff positions below Executive Staff are also now open and a closing date will be announced later this fall.

Cadets are to refer to their "Learn to Lead" book under Chapter 8 pages 176-178 to help guide you with creating a CAP resume. Your application for staff is required in to be in a Word document with your Squadron CAP letter head, 12 point font Times New Roman, no more than two pages, listing previous positions held, other experience, and list contact information for a follow up interview. Also a short paragraph of encampment goals as a cover letter is expected. Cadet Staff applications are to be sent to Capt. Ashley Ehret: capehret@gmail.com

All Encampment Senior Member Staff positions are now open. You are highly encouraged to apply early. You will need to submit a CAP resume in a Word document with your Squadron CAP letter head, 12 point font Times New Roman, no more than two pages, listing previous positions held, other experience, and list contact information for a follow up interview. Also a short paragraph of encampment goals as a cover letter is expected. Send Senior Staff applications to Capt. Michael Johnson: michael.johnson@sdcap.us

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Capt. Johnson and/or Capt. Ehret.



ASSISTANT WING HISTORIAN

Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP

- Two new items have been added to the Wing History section of the Wing website. The first item is a copy of the July-August 1958 issue of "The Dacotah Log", a quarterly SDWG hardcopy newsletter. It contains a wealth of information about SDWG at that time. It's in the "History" subcategory. The second item is an updated genealogy list of SDWG units. The new information came from the Dacotah Log newsletter. It is in the "Genealogy" subcategory.



WING DIRECTOR OF CADET PROGRAMS

Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, CAP

- SDWG's National Character Development Day/Weekend will be held at the Rushmore Composite Squadron in Rapid City from 23 to 25 September. Plan to arrive on Friday evening or early Saturday morning. A schedule of activities will be published in the next two weeks. Speakers thus far are Capt. Michael Johnson and Col. David Small as well as myself. Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) activities are planned. The Cadet Advisory Council is welcome to meet also if they so wish. There is no fee for the event, however, officers and cadets should bring at least \$30 - \$35 for food including for travel to and from the event. The uniform for Saturday is Class-B blues. Officers may wear corporate uniform white/gray or blue polo shirt with gray slacks. Questions, call me (605-212-7032) or email me linda.buechler@sdcap.us



WING DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Maj. Craig Goodrich, CAP

- A new "Operations Update" email has been sent out. If you did not receive it and wish to get a copy please contact me at craig.goodrich@sdcap.us and I'll send it to you. It has lots of information on aircraft and admin procedures pertaining thereto.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items and photos submitted by Capt. Bierwirth)



- **SHMAAF**: We were "SHMAAF'd" on 27 August. That's short for the Southern Hills Music and Arts Festival event in Custer that we were able to set up a booth. The event featured singers Eddie Money, Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis Jr. We had two people show interest in coming to our next meeting and sold 16 Wreaths for the Wreaths Across America Program.

In the photo looking sharp are C/A1C Jon Larcher, C/TSgt Anthony Dillon and C/CMSgt Thomas Dillon. The photo was taken by Capt Kris Bierwirth

- **FRIED FISH BINGO**: We also helped at the American Legion Riders fish fry/bingo night on 12 August and sold 17 wreaths for Wreaths Across America.

- **NEW MEMBERS:** We gained four members to our squadron, Welcome aboard Sponsor Members Alfred Heinrich and Ramilia Heinrich and Senior Members Denver Legg and Forrest Legg.
- **BOMBER SIMULATOR:** We went on an Aerospace Education field trip to Ellsworth Air Force Base where we were able to experience the B-1 Bomber flight simulator instructed by USAF Maj. Richard Morrison.



BACK ROW: SM DARWIN KOPFMANN, CAPT. JAMES DILLON, LT. TIM MODDE, MAJ. RICHARD MORRISON, C/SSGT HUNTER RICE, C/TSGT ANTHONY DILLON, C/AMN ROBERT HEWITT, FRONT ROW: C/AMN ALEXANDER HEINRICH, C/CMSGT THOMAS DILLON, C/SRA ETHAN UPDIKE

SIoux FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIoux FALLS)

(Items submitted by Maj. Epp)

- **NEW PILOT:** Please welcome SM Tom Redlin, our newest member of the squadron! Tom is a pilot, so let's get him spooled up as quickly as we can.
- **NEW ESO:** Please welcome SM Bill Strandell as the squadron's Emergency Services Officer! As ESO, he will oversee that squadron members are trained/prepared for their ES roles. Bill was a colonel in the USAF.
- **NEW MEMBER:** Please welcome our newest member, SM Lucinda Helmes! She is interested in being a scanner/observer. She found out about us at the Sioux Falls Air Show. We're happy to have you aboard.
- **TRANSFER MEMBER:** Please welcome Capt. Ashley Ehret to the Squadron! Ashley is a ten year CAP member, earned her Earhart as a cadet, has been involved in leadership positions at our encampments as both a Cadet and an Officer, and is studying Emergency Management at NDSU. She has been a member of the Dickinson and Bismarck squadrons and is transferring to Sioux Falls from the Fargo Cadet Squadron.
- **STRENGTH IN NUMBERS:** We are now at 33 Cadets and 57 Officers for a total of 90 members. Our goal by June 2020 is 40 Cadets and 60 Officers for 100 members actively participating.
- **STAFF APPOINTMENT:** Capt. Ashley Ehret has been appointed the squadron's Deputy Commander of Officers and the Chief of the squadron's administrative staff.

• **THANK YOU:** On behalf of the members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, we would like to express our sincere thanks to Col. David and Capt. Sylvia Small for all the hospitality they showed us before, during, and after the Spearfish SAREX on 20 September 2016. We appreciate the hard work it takes to cook and clean for a small army of CAP volunteers staying in your home. Thank you!

★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotion



Congratulations to Christopher Schuppan of Sioux Falls, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Charles Lindbergh Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Ethan Updike of Oelrichs, a member of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer, on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Alexander Heinrich of Custer, a member of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer, on his promotion to Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



Congratulations to Isaiah Klosterman of Brandon, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Caleb Hofer of Hendricks, MN and to Austen King of Volga, both members of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings, on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the General J.F. Curry Award!



★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★



Congratulations to Maj. Craig Goodrich of Rapid City, a member of the Wing Staff, who completed requirements for award of the Master level in Standardization and Evaluations (Stan/Eval) in CAP's senior member specialty track program. In recognition thereof he is entitled to add a silver star to his membership ribbon!



Congratulations to Maj. Craig Goodrich of Rapid City, a member of the Wing Staff, who completed the requirements of Level IV of the senior member professional development program. In recognition thereof he has been awarded the Paul E. Garber Award!





Congratulations to Maj. E.W. Filler, commander of Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings, who has been certified as a Character Development Instructor (CDI)! CAP CDIs are part of the CAP Chaplain Corps and are appointed to provide character development instruction as part of the cadet program under the guidance of the Wing Chaplain. Senior Members selected for appointment as a CDI are required to undergo a stringent vetting process by NHQ before appointment by National Chaplain.



Congratulations to Chaplain (Capt.) Darwin Kopfmann who has been formally appointed as a CAP Chaplain, assigned to the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer.



Congratulations to C/Maj. Brandon West of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron who on 12 August completed the requirements for certification as a CAP Mission Pilot! Brandon is the first cadet to attain Mission Pilot status since NHQ began keeping such records. Brandon flew his first mission just one day after becoming a Mission Pilot. He flew a low-level route survey with Maj. Jeremy Langrock and Maj. Karla West, then a very long low-level route survey of the Kansas Military Operations Area with Maj. Justin Johnson and Maj. West. Brandon is currently working on getting his certified flight instructor certificate so he can start being an instructor and hopes to start instructing new cadets.

★ ★ CAP MEMBER ON CAPITOL HILL ★ ★

- Cadets and Officers from Andrews Air Force Base Squadron, Maryland, received a personal tour of the U.S. Capitol in August. Their tour guide was SM Elizabeth Foy, who interned for U.S. Senator John Hoeven (N.D.) over the summer. Elizabeth is a senior at North Dakota State University, studying Political Science and in her fourth year of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) program. Many will remember Elizabeth as Cadet Major Foy, formerly a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron and daughter of SDWG's Director of Logistics Capt. Jerry Foy.



★ ★ NEW TECHNOLOGY ★ ★

BOEING DEVELOPING FIREFIGHTING ARTILLERY SHELLS [Edited]: Boeing has filed a patent application for a 155mm artillery shell filled with flame suppressant to assist crews in fighting wildfires. It is estimated the shells, which would feature a trigger for releasing their payload near a fire with a high level of accuracy, would deliver suppressant up to twice as efficiently as a helicopter airdrop. In addition, "aircraft payload delivery accuracy may be diminished due to wind, rain, and/or smoke" and "aircraft can't deliver flame-retardant payloads at night" according to the application. The shells would provide firefighters an additional tool that would compensate for these deficiencies. Some guns could achieve accuracy within 15 feet of a target blaze from a range of 15 miles with the firefighting shells, which would be constructed of "environmentally friendly" material that would decompose after breaking apart. Steady firing with three-gallon shells could deliver 214,000 gallons of fire suppressant in about six hours - about twice as fast as a helicopter. There are currently more than 32 fires raging across the United States, which has lost more than 4 million acres in 2016 so far.

Sources: Air Force Magazine, Daily Report, Thursday August 25, 2016 and Defense One (http://www.defenseone.com/technology/2016/08/boeing-wants-patent-fire-fighting-howitzer-round/130991/?utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief)

★ ★ WING CALENDAR ★ ★

Below is the Wing Calendar for September as of the date this Skychaser was published. Check the Wing website for the latest information as the calendars are frequently updated.

SEP 5 Mon	all-day Tach Sheets Due
	all-day Vehicle Reports Due to Wing VMO ...
SEP 9 Fri	all-day IFR Proficiency Clinic – Sioux F...
SEP 12 Mon	all-day SD EMA Conference in Aberdeen, SD
SEP 17 Sat	all-day IG Senior Course
SEP 23 Fri	all-day National Character Weekend
	all-day Natl Character Day – Linda B – R...
SEP 30 Fri	all-day Sioux Falls SI Due

